

Mulholland Scenic Parkway Design Review Board

Lynette Berg Robe, Chair
12711 Ventura Blvd., Suite 450
Studio City, California 91604
March 27, 2001

Gregg Scott
Director of Street Services
Department of Public Works
650 South Spring Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90014

Re: Core Trail, Section 8, Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan, City Ordinance
167,943

Dear Mr. Scott:

The Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan, City Ordinance 167,943, has been in effect since June 29, 1992. Section 8 of that plan provides for the creation of a "Core Trail" within the right of way along Mulholland. The Mulholland Scenic Parkway under this ordinance runs roughly from near the Hollywood Bowl to Topanga Canyon Blvd. West of that, Mulholland is governed by a different specific plan. So, the intent is that the Core Trail would go from the Hollywood Bowl to Topanga.

Section 8 of the Specific Plan has never been implemented. I am writing to request that Street Services begin the process for the creation of the Core Trail. It is my understanding that Public Works must initiate the process. There will need to be a design for the trail and funding to build it. In addition, the creation of the trail may require the revocation of revocable permits that have been issued by Public Works for various structures and landscaping within the right of way.

According to Sec. 8, a copy of which is enclosed with this, the "Core Trail shall be a continuous trail within the right-of-way. It shall be constructed generally parallel to, but not within the shoulders, except where physical constraints necessitate development adjacent to Mulholland Drive." I enclose a copy of Section 8 for your information.

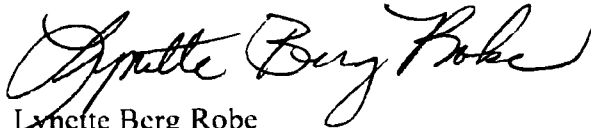
After the Mulholland Design Review Board recommends approval of the Core Trail design and location, then it must be approved by the City Planning Commission, and then by the City Council. After it has been created, the landscaping of the Core Trail is to be maintained by the Department of Recreation and Parks.

After nine years, it is time for the Core Trail to become a reality. The members of the Mulholland Design Review Board request that you come to one of our meetings to explain to us how the creation of the Core Trail can be accomplished. We meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Please call Anna Vidal at the City Planning Department at (818) 756-9172 or e-mail her at avidal@planning.ci.la.ca.us to arrange to be put on an upcoming agenda.

Gregg Scott
Page 2
03/27/01

You can reach me at the above telephone number and address. My e-mail is Portia1000@Aol.com. I thank you for your prompt response.

Yours truly,



Lynette Berg Robe
Chairman, Mulholland Scenic Parkway Design Review Board

cc: The Honorable Michael Feuer, 5th Council District
Sharon Mayer, Field Deputy
The Honorable Cindy Miscikowski, 11th Council District
The Honorable Joel Wachs, 2nd Council District
The Honorable John Ferraro, 4th Council District
The Honorable Hal Bernson, 12th Council District, Planning and Land Use
The Honorable Mike Hernandez, 1st Council District, Planning and Land Use
Joseph T. Edmiston, ACIP, Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy
Paul Edelman, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Jerry Daniel, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Elizabeth Cheadle, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Ed Begley, Jr., Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Arthur Eck, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
Andrew Adelman, Department of Building and Safety
Con Howe, Department of Planning
Robert Sutton, Department of Planning
Lynn Wyatt, Department of Planning
Dick Platkin, Department of Planning
Anna Vidal, Department of Planning
Andre Parvenu, Department of Planning
Ellen Stein, President, Board of Public Works
Maribel Marin, Commissioner Board of Public Works
Vitaly B. Troyan, P.E., Chief Engineer, Department of Public Works
Mike Patonai, Department of Public Works
Victor Osugi, Department of Public Works
Barry Read, Mulholland Tomorrow
Steve Twining, Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations
Joan Luchs, Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations
Lottie Melhorn
Mulholland Scenic Parkway Design Review Board:
Jenna Abouzeid, Vice-chair
Alan Dymond
Sara R. Nichols
Tom Rule

the location and design of said lighting standard shall have the prior recommendation of the Director after receipt of the recommendation of the Board. The Director may recommend approval of the location and design of a lighting standard after making the following findings:

- a. The lighting standard does not obstruct a scenic feature or resource.
- b. The lighting standard complements the views from Mulholland Drive.
- c. The lighting fixture proposed to be used reduces the visual intrusion of lighting into the right-of-way.

6. Existing lighting standards located in the right-of-way between Corda Drive and Encino Hills Drive, between Beverly Glen Boulevard and Benedict Canyon Drive, between Skyline Drive and Laurel Pass Avenue, between Laurel Canyon Boulevard and Dona Pegita Drive, and at Woodcliff Road should be redesigned by the Department of Public Works to reduce the glare, and cut-off fixtures should be installed to focus the light directly onto Mulholland Drive and the shoulders.

E. Features.

1. All guard rails shall be constructed according to Bureau of Engineering standards and shall have a wood facing treated and finished to achieve a rustic and/or natural appearance.
2. All historic survey monuments set during the original survey for Mulholland Drive shall be preserved at their original location.

Sec. 8 CORE TRAIL

A. The core trail design and location shall be approved by the City Council acting after receipt of the recommendation of the City Planning Commission. After receipt of the recommendation of the Board, the City Planning Commission may recommend approval of the construction of the core trail upon making the following findings.

1. The design and location of the core trail is consistent with the provisions of this Section.
2. The graded slopes have a natural appearance compatible with the Santa Monica Mountains.
3. The landscaping is designed to complement the view from Mulholland Drive and the right-of-way.
4. The landscaping is designed to promote safety and require a minimum of security measures.
5. The landscaping is consistent with Section 10 of this Specific Plan.

6. Any signs are designed to prevent vandalism and are placed so as to identify the location of the core trail.

B. **Location.** The core trail shall be a continuous trail within the right-of-way. It shall be constructed generally parallel to, but not within the shoulders, except where physical constraints necessitate development adjacent to Mulholland Drive.

C. **Design.** Where feasible, the core trail shall consist of two distinct, generally parallel pathways separated by vegetation, topography or other means. It shall not be paved with a hard surface. One pathway shall be designated for use by hikers and joggers and the other designated for use by equestrians.

D. **Maintenance.** The Department of Recreation and Parks shall be responsible for maintaining all landscaping along the core trail.

Sec. 9. MAJOR VISTA POINTS.

A. **Location.** Fourteen major vista points (MVP) are designated on maps 1B through 6B and listed below:

1. **Hollywood Bowl MVP** (Olympics 1984 Overlook) (1 mile west of the Hollywood Freeway)

2. **Universal City MVP** (0.1 miles east of Torreyson Place).

3. **Fryman Canyon MVP** (0.7 miles west of Laurel Canyon Boulevard).

4. **Summit MVP** (1.9 miles west of Laurel Canyon Boulevard)

5. **Deep Canyon MVP** (0.1 miles east of Benedict Canyon Drive)

6. **Nicada MVP** (0.4 miles west of Beverly Glen Boulevard).

7. **The Grove MVP** (0.9 miles west of Sepulveda Boulevard).

8. **San Vicente Mountain Park MVP** (0.4 miles west of Mandeville extended).

9. **Topanga State Park MVP** (0.3 miles west of Reseda Boulevard extended).

10. **"A" MVP** (Between Reseda Boulevard extended and Vanalden Avenue extended).

11. **"B" MVP** (Between Reseda Boulevard extended and Vanalden Avenue extended).

12. **Corbin MVP** (0.25 miles west of Sepulveda Boulevard).

Mulholland Scenic Parkway Design Review Board

*Lynette Berg Robe, Chair
12711 Ventura Blvd., Suite 450
Studio City, California 91604
(818) 980-9964
Fax (818) 980-7141*

May 28, 2002

Via Fax and U.S. Mail

The Honorable Wendy Greuel
Second Council District
200 N. Spring Street, Room 430
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable Tom LaBonge
Fourth Council District
200 N. Spring Street, Room 480
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable Cindy Miscikowski
Eleventh Council District
200 N. Spring Street, Room 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable Jack Weiss
Fifth Council District
200 N. Spring Street, Room 440
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan, Ordinance 167,943

Dear Councilmembers:

As all of the council offices having jurisdiction over the Mulholland Scenic Parkway are now filled, I am taking this opportunity to once again request that the process to make the "Core Trail" a reality be initiated. The Core Trail is to be placed in the public right of way along Mulholland Drive. This is as set forth in Section 8 of the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan, City Ordinance 167,943. A copy of Section 8 is enclosed for your convenience.

The Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan has been in effect since June 29, 1992. Provision for the Core Trail is law, and the use of public funds to implement it is therefore justified. To date, after ten years, no action has been taken to create the trail. The Mulholland Scenic Parkway under the ordinance runs roughly from near the Hollywood Bowl to Topanga Canyon Blvd. It is the intent of the ordinance that the Core Trail would extend from the Hollywood Bowl to Topanga., some 22 miles. This is an opportunity to create a unique public park. There is supposed to be a bicycle path along the shoulder of Mulholland Drive, and then a hiking trail and an equestrian trail in the right of way.

Unlike other parks, the land for the Core Trail does not need to be acquired. The City's right of way along Mulholland was established long ago. East of Laurel Canyon

Boulevard, the right of way is 100 feet wide. West of Laurel Canyon Boulevard, the right of way is 200 feet wide.

I have discussed the Core Trail both with the Planning Department and with Public Works, but neither seems certain as to how to proceed. Section 8 is not precisely clear as to who is to plan and build the trail or how the cost will be funded. I am writing to request your assistance in this regard. At one time, there was discussion of the creation of a joint committee between the two departments, but there appears to have been no follow through. Perhaps a motion before the City Council to order that the City initiate the process would be appropriate. I believe that, once there is a design and a budget for the Core Trail, funding for the construction of it may be forthcoming from the State and other sources.

After ten years, it is time for the Core Trail to become a reality. The public deserves the opportunity to walk safely along Mulholland and to enjoy the spectacular views. The Core Trail has been written into law. Now, we need leadership with the will to make it a reality.

You may contact me at the above telephone number and address. My e-mail is Portia1000@Aol.com. I thank you for your prompt response.

Yours truly,

Lynette Berg Robe
Chair, Mulholland Scenic Parkway Design Review Board

Enc.

cc: The Honorable James K. Hahn, Mayor
Con Howe, Director, Department of Planning
Valerie Lynne Shaw, President, Board of Public Works
Mike Roos, President, Board of Commissioners of Parks and Recreation
Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Jerry Daniel, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Paul Edelman, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Barry Read, Mulholland Tomorrow
Polly Ward, President Federation of Hillside and Canyons Associations
Steve Twining, Chairman, Federation of Hillside and Canyons Associations
Tony Lucente, Studio City Residents Association,
Joan Luchs, Cahuenga Pass Homeowners Association
Lottie Melhorn, community
Barbara Blinderman, community
Members of the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Design Review Board:

Los Angeles City Councilmembers

Page 3

05/05/03

Vice Chair, Jenna Abouzeid

Fiona Dunne

Alan Dymond

Sara R. Nichols

Tom Rule